HOUSE BILL 2389

By Miller

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-38-115, relative to victims of crime.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 40-38-115, is amended by deleting subsection (a) and substituting instead the following:

(a) Any victim of crime may have a crime victim advocate from a crime assistance program, a victim-witness coordinator as provided for in § 8-7-206, or an immediate family member present at any defense interviews with the victim. This section applies if practical and if the presence of the crime victim advocate, victim-witness coordinator, or immediate family member does not cause any unnecessary delay in the investigation or prosecution of the case. The role of the crime victim advocate, victim-witness coordinator, or immediate family member is to provide emotional support to the victim.

SECTION 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring

it.